

three times the length of the lateral ones. The young (on which *C. funebris* is supposed to have been founded) is wholly deep black, with the middle tail-feathers but slightly exceeding the others in length. Such descriptions of course cover only half the ground, and are exceedingly inefficient.

Lack of space forbids criticism of the many points in respect to synonymy and nomenclature which almost daily use of the work for several months has brought to light, many of which we hope to cover later in other connections. They do not, however, seriously detract from the value of the work, which in its orderly grouping of the species, the marshaling of thousands upon thousands of references to the literature of the subject, and the fair clues given for the recognition of the species will ever render the work invaluable to all future workers in the same field.—
J. A. A.

Sclater and Hudson's 'Argentine Ornithology.'—The second volume* of this excellent treatise has just appeared, completing the work. Its general character having been already stated in our notice of the first volume (*Auk*, V, p. 199), it only remains to speak of the special features of the present one, which contains an account of all the non-Passerine birds found in the Argentine Republic. The high praise we gave the first volume is fully merited by the second. In this the biographies are in many instances more extended, especially in the case of several of the Hawks and Owls. The whole number of species recognized as belonging to the Argentine avifauna is 434, of which 205 are treated in the present volume. An important feature of the work is an annotated bibliographical appendix, giving a list of the works and papers referred to in the body of the work, to which is added a list of the principal localities where collections have been made. An 'Introduction' of eight pages treats of the avifauna analytically, in reference to the numerical representation of the various families and orders, as compared with the Neotropical region at large.

As stated in our notice of the former volume, we regret that it was deemed necessary to restrict the technical portions of the work to brief diagnoses of the adult bird, with rarely any reference to immature phases or other variations of plumage, since a fuller treatment of this part of the subject would have made the work far more useful as a handbook of Argentine ornithology. At page 11 of Volume II we notice a singular *lapsus pennæ*, the English name of *Chordeiles virginianus* (Gm.) being given as "Whip-poor-will" in the heading, while in the biographical text the species is referred to as "the well-known Whip-poor-will of the United States!"

* Argentine Ornithology. | A | Descriptive Catalogue | of the | Birds of the Argentine Republic. | By | P. L. Slater, M. A., Ph. D., F. R. S., Etc. | With Notes on their Habits | By | W. H. Hudson, C. M. Z. S., late of Buenos Ayres. | [Vignette] Burmeister's Cariama. | — | Volume II. | — | London: | R. H. Porter, 18 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W. | 1889.—8vo, pp. i-xxiv+1-251, pll. col. xi-xx.

As already noted, Mr. Barrows's papers on the 'Birds of the Lower Uruguay,' published a few years since in this journal, are freely cited, but unfortunately his species are not always correctly synonymized by our authors—a mistake in most cases excusable, since there is generally no clew, except the name, to the species really meant. Having recently had in hand many of Mr. Barrows's specimens of the more difficult groups, it may be well, in the interest of future writers, to correctly allocate some of Mr. Barrows's species thus misplaced in the 'Argentine Ornithology.'

Cyclorhis viridis Barrows is naturally placed (Vol. I, p. 24) under *C. altirostris* Salv. [= *C. viridis* (Vieill.)], but Mr. Barrows's specimens prove to be true *C. ochrocephala*.

Elainea albiceps Barrows is *Empidagra suiriri* (Vieill.), and thus of course is naturally but wrongly placed (Vol. I, p. 145) under *E. albiceps* (d'Orb. and Lafr.), which is Mr. Barrows's *E. modesta*.

Leptasthenura ægithaloides Barrows is *L. platensis* Reich., a form Mr. Sclater doubtless does not admit. Mr. Barrows's specimens, however, represent a bird very different from the true *L. ægithaloides* of Chili.

Phacellodomus ruber Barrows proves, on comparison of Barrows's specimens with Lafresnaye's types, to be the true *P. striaticollis* (d'Orb. and Lafr.).

It is but fair to say that actual errors in the identification of Mr. Barrows's species are chargeable either to myself or to Dr. Burmeister, whose opinions Mr. Barrows accepted (*cf.* Auk, I, p. 319).—J. A. A.

Gould's 'Birds of New Guinea.'—In 1871 the late Mr. John Gould began the publication of a work in five volumes folio, on the Birds of New Guinea and adjacent islands,* to be issued in twenty-five parts. At the time of Mr. Gould's death, in 1873, only twelve of the parts had been issued, the thirteen remaining parts having been prepared by Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, the eminent ornithologist in charge of the Department of Birds at the British Museum. The work contains 320 plates, in the excellent style of Gould's other well-known large folio works on the Birds of Asia, Australia, Great Britain, etc. The 'Introduction,' by Mr. Sharpe, gives a historical summary of ornithological exploration in New Guinea and the Papuan Islands. The few Australian birds included, form, as it were, a further supplement to his 'Birds of Australia.' A page of letter press accompanies each plate, describing the species figured, and giving a short sketch of its history. The many birds of gorgeous plumage inhabiting New Guinea and neighboring Islands—as the numerous species of Parrots, Birds of Paradise, and Fruit Pigeons—furnish wonderfully striking subjects for illustration. To say that the work is in Gould's well-known style sufficiently indicates the high character of this magnificent contribution to ornithology.—J. A. A.

* The Birds of New Guinea | and the adjacent Papuan Islands, | including any new species that may be discovered in Australia. By | John Gould, F. R. S., etc. Part [s] I-[XXV]. | . . . London, Dec. 1875-Dec. 1888.